

Examiner-Initiated Interview Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/827,102	RINES ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	JOHN PAK	1616	

All Participants:

(1) JOHN PAK.

(2) ROBERT RINES.

Status of Application: _____

(3) _____.

(4) _____.

Date of Interview: 10 January 2006

Time: _____

Type of Interview:

- ☒ Telephonic
☐ Video Conference
☐ Personal (Copy given to: ☐ Applicant ☐ Applicant's representative)

Exhibit Shown or Demonstrated: ☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, provide a brief description: *Examiner Pak sent a fax to Mr. Rines. A copy of the fax is attached hereto.*

Part I.

Rejection(s) discussed: _____

Claims discussed: _____

Prior art documents discussed: _____

Part II.

SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW DESCRIBING THE GENERAL NATURE OF WHAT WAS DISCUSSED:

Examiner Pak sent a fax to Mr. Rines, which fax outlines a claim amendment proposal. Mr. Rines will review and reply.

Part III.

- ☒ It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview, since the interview directly resulted in the allowance of the application. The examiner will provide a written summary of the substance of the interview in the Notice of Allowability.
☐ It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview, since the interview did not result in resolution of all issues. A brief summary by the examiner appears in Part II above.

(Examiner/SPE Signature)

(Applicant/Applicant's Representative Signature – if appropriate)



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Fax Cover Sheet

Date: 10 Jan 2006

To: Robert Rines	From: JOHN PAK
Application/Control Number: 09/827,102	Art Unit: 1616
Fax No.:	Phone No.: (571)272-0620
Voice No.: 603-228-0121	Return Fax No.: (571)273-0620
Re:	CC:

☒ Urgent ☐ For Review ☒ For Comment ☐ For Reply ☐ Per Your Request

Comments:
Mr. Rines,

Please review the following proposal. Most of the changes are cosmetic/grammatical.

Substantive changes (in my opinion):

1) cancellation of claim 17 – I could not find any support from the originally filed disclosure (preliminary amendment did not count as original disclosure back you filed this case, if the preliminary amendment was not acknowledged in the oath/declaration). There is no mention of the GEL of polyacrylate being dispersed in that ratio/amount

2) It appears from your comments (page 6 of the 10/27/05 response, second paragraph) that you thought you amended claim 9 like you amended claim 1. Not so. Claim 9 was not amended to recite the 45-1000 micron size feature. I put that in, as it is needed to overcome the prior art.

Please review and let me know if you approve. I reserve the opportunity to correct for any other minor spelling or grammatical errors. Thank you.

Number of pages 4 including this page

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Claims 1-17 and 39-41 are pending in this application.

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

 Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Rines on (NOT yet)

Cancel claim 17.

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A water-releasing gel for use with plant material, obtained from a polyacrylate polymer powder having a size distribution of 45 to 1,000 microns, wherein a sufficient quantity of said polyacrylate polymer powder is gelled in an aqueous plant nutrient solution and the gel contains entrapped water-insoluble polyacrylate locked as a deposit therein.

Claim 2. (Currently amended) A water-releasing gel for use with plant material comprising a sufficient quantity of a polyacrylate polymer powder gelled in an aqueous solution of plant nutrient and zeolite crystals, wherein the gel contains entrapped water-insoluble polyacrylate and zeolite crystals locked as deposits therein.

Claim 3. (Currently amended) The gel of claim 1 wherein the plant nutrient solution is selected from the group consisting of plant-derived extracts and water-based chemical nutrients.

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Claim 9. (Currently amended) A method of making a water-releasing gel for use with plant material, which comprises:

- producing an aqueous plant nutrient solution; and
- adding a sufficient quantity of polyacrylate polymer powder having a size distribution of 45 to 1,000 microns to the aqueous plant nutrient solution to obtain a gel with water-insoluble polyacrylate entrapped as a deposit locked therein.

Claim 10. (Currently amended) A method of making a water-releasing gel for use with plant material, which comprises:

- producing an aqueous solution comprising plant nutrient and zeolite crystals; and
- adding a sufficient quantity of polyacrylate polymer powder having a size distribution of 45 to 1,000 microns to said aqueous solution to obtain a gel with water-insoluble polyacrylate and zeolite crystals entrapped as deposits locked therein.

Claim 12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the plant nutrient solution is selected from the group consisting of plant-derived extracts and water-based chemical nutrients.

Claim 16. (Currently amended). A method of making a water-releasing gel for use with plant material, that comprises:

- producing an aqueous plant nutrient solution;
- dispersing zeolite crystals in said solution to absorb the nutrients; and

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adding polyacrylate polymer powder to the solution to create a gel with the zeolite crystals absorbed therein.

Claim 40. (Currently amended) The method of making a water-releasing gel of claim 9, wherein the gel has the appearance of ice crystals.

Claim 41. (Currently amended) The method of making a water-releasing gel of claim 10, wherein the gel has the appearance of ice crystals.